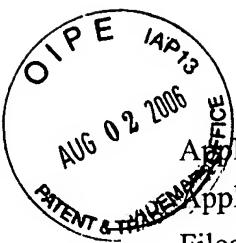


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number : 10/673,886 Confirmation No. 7856
Applicants : Jean-Louis ESCARY
Filed : September 30, 2003
Title : NEW POLYNUCLEOTIDES AND POLYPEPTIDES OF THE IFN α -21 GENE
TC/Art Unit : 1634
Examiner: Diana JOHANNSEN
Docket No. : 60711.000023
Customer No. : 21967

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT OF July 5, 2006

Sir:

Applicant provides the following Election in response (“Response”) to the Restriction Requirement (“Office Action”) dated July 5, 2006, in the above-captioned application. The Office Action set forth restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to 8 purportedly distinct inventions. Applicant hereby provisionally elects **Group IV** (claims 83-102), drawn to proteins with **traverse** and provisionally elects **SNP K179E polymorphism with traverse**. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional application(s) directed to non-elected subject matter.

This Response is submitted within one (1) month of the mailing date of the Office Action which is up to and including August 5, 2006, which is a Saturday, extending the date to August 7, 2006 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.7(a). As such, Applicant believes that no fees are required. In the event that any fee is deemed necessary by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) to enter and consider this Response or to maintain the present application pending, please charge such fees to the undersigned’s **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.